

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1, 3 and 7 are pending and are independent.

Claims 1, 3 and 7 are amended. Claims 2 and 4-6 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

**Drawings**

Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, Form PTO-948, indicating whether the formal drawings are approved, with the next official communication.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)/Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 1-6 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,938,447 to Kirksey in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,185,538 to Schulz, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,226,443 to Morioka et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7 is allowed. While not conceding the appropriateness of the rejection, but merely to expedite the prosecution of the instant application, claims 2 and 4-6 are canceled and independent claim 1 is amended to recite a combination of steps in

a method for reproducing sound using an information reproducing apparatus, including “analyzing the audio data according to speed change information from the system controller; registering the text data and the corresponding audio data; integrating the timing of the decoded audio data with the timing of the registered audio data; searching the registered audio data nearest to the decoded audio data; and receiving the text data corresponding to the decoded audio data.”

Independent claim 3 is amended to recite a combination of elements in an information reproducing apparatus for reading out data from a recording medium having audio data and video data, including “data analysis processing means for analyzing the audio data according to speed change information and for improving the accuracy of sound recognition by suppressing unnecessary noise; registering means for registering the text data and the corresponding audio data; and data conversion processing means for integrating the timing of the audio data from the data analysis processing means with the timing of the audio data from the registering means, and searching audio data from the registering means nearest to the audio data from the data analysis processing means by comparing each audio data and receiving the text data corresponding to the audio data from the registering means.”

On page 12 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the following limitations in claim 7:

a data analysis processing unit for analyzing the audio data according to speed change information from the system controller and for improving the accuracy of sound recognition by suppressing unnecessary noise; a data table for registering the text data and the corresponding audio data; and a data conversion processing unit for integrating the timing of the audio data from the data analysis processing unit with the timing of the audio data from the data table, and searching audio data from the data table nearest to the audio data from the data analysis processing unit by comparing each audio data and receiving the text data corresponding to the audio data from the data table.

Since most of the above-cited allowable limitations of claim 7 are now incorporated into claims 1 and 3, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3 are likewise patentable and distinct over the applied prior art of record, including Kirksey, Shulz and Morioka et al.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on these references are respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

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Art Unit 2654

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If any issues remain, however, the Examiner is invited to telephone James T. Eller, Jr. (Reg. No. 39,538) at 703-205-8000 in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By: 

James T. Eller, Jr.  
Reg. No. 39,538

JTE:cms

P. O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000